

NEW ENGLAND NOTE:
CHANGE IN STATUS FOR *PRUNUS GRAVESII*

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One of the results of a recently completed study of *Prunus Gravesii* was the recognition that this species would best be treated as a variety of *P. maritima*.

Prunus maritima Marshall var. ***Gravesii*** (Small) Anderson, *stat. nov.* BASIONYM: *Prunus Gravesii* Small, Bull. Torrey Bot. Club **24**: 44. 1897.

Small did not designate a type specimen. In an effort to select one, Graves' specimens collected before 1897 were examined from the following herbaria: A, GH, CONN, Connecticut College, NCBS, NEBC, NY, US, and YU. Four specimens from NY have both Graves' and Small's handwriting on the label. Two of these bear only, or primarily, vegetative material ("Aug. 8. 1894", "Aug. 15. 1895"), the other two flowering material. Both of the latter bear the date "May. 29. 1895". I have selected the one with the best preserved flowers as the lectotype (it has a number 2 written in pencil in the upper right hand corner of the label). In addition, filed with the sheets at NY, there are two letters from Graves (one to N. L. Britton, the other to Small) that contain the data Small used in the description of *P. Gravesii*.

This variety is easily distinguished by its orbiculate leaves from the typical variety *maritima* which is characterized by lanceolate leaves. Other distinguishing characteristics of this variety are given in Anderson (1980).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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LITERATURE CITED

- ANDERSON, GREGORY J. 1980. The status of the very rare *Prunus Gravesii*.
Rhodora 82: 113-129.
- SMALL, J. K. 1897. An apparently undescribed species of *Prunus* from Connecticut. Bull Torrey Bot. Club 24: 44-45.

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